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28 August 2007

Ms. Beth Gordon  
RESCOM Environmental  
PO Box 6225  
Traverse City, Michigan 49696

**RE: Biological Study and Impact Assessment of the Proposed Cricket Communications Telecommunications Facility (SAN-227-A) on the Black Mountain Norte Tank Property, San Diego, California**

Dear Ms. Gordon,

The following letter report details the results of the biological study and impact assessment of the proposed Cricket Communications (Cricket) telecommunications facility (SAN-227-A) on the Black Mountain Norte Tank property, located at 16893 Camino San Bernardo in San Diego, California.

**SUMMARY**

**Purpose and Scope:** RESCOM Environmental Corp (RESCOM) retained SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) to undertake a biological resources study of the proposed Cricket Communications SAN-227-A telecommunications facility on the Black Mountain Norte Tank property in San Diego, California. The work was requested to fulfill requirements set forth in the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as required by the County of San Diego. The services provided by SWCA entailed a sensitive species occurrence database review and a field visit of the approximately 3.0-acre project area to determine if sensitive biological resources are present on the property or its immediate vicinity, and to determine whether implementation of the project would result in significant impacts to sensitive biological resources. This report documents the results of the study.

**Dates of Investigation:** The sensitive species database search was conducted prior to entering the field, and the field visit was conducted on July 30, 2007. This report was completed in August 2007.

**Findings of the Investigation:** The sensitive occurrence database search revealed the presence of more than 1,220 occurrences of 131 special-status species or habitats within the nine 7.5-minute U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangles surrounding the project area. The field visit identified one special-status species within the study area, coastal California gnatcatcher. Additionally, several other special-status species may occur immediately adjacent to the project area, including orange-throated whiptail, coast horned lizard, northern red-diamond rattlesnake, southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, Bell's sage sparrow, San Diego cactus wren, Dulzura pocket mouse, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse, and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit.

The proposed project would not result in impacts to special-status plants, or the take of sensitive habitats within the hardline preserve, nor would potentially jurisdictional wetlands be impacted by the proposed project. The proposed project has the potential to impact nesting pairs of migratory, raptorial, and native avian species. The trenching associated with the proposed buried utility easement could result in inadvertent trapping of terrestrial animals, including special-status reptilian and mammalian species, within the open trench during its construction.

**Recommendations:** In order to reduce potential project impacts to a less than significant level, SWCA recommends the following: (1) construction of the project should be conducted outside of the nesting season for protected avian species, or between September 1<sup>st</sup> and January 14<sup>th</sup>; (2) if construction must occur during the nesting season for birds, or between January 15<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, a qualified biologist should perform preconstruction nest surveys to identify active nests within and adjacent to the project area; (3) if active nests are discovered during the preconstruction survey, the biologist should mark buffer zones of 300 feet around active non-raptor nests and 500 feet around active raptor nests, and these buffers should be avoided during construction; (4) a temporary fence such as silt fencing should be placed along the edge of the construction limits adjacent to coastal sage scrub and grassland habitats during construction to serve as a limit line for equipment operators, as well as an obstacle for animals traversing the area; and (5) if the trench associated with the proposed utility easement is to remain open for more than one day, it is recommended that a qualified biologist monitor the trench for the presence of reptiles, amphibians, or rodents that may have become trapped in the trench overnight prior to the commencement of work the following day.

## INTRODUCTION

### PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT

This document details the results of a biological study of the proposed SAN-227-A telecommunications facility on the Black Mountain Norte Tank property (project), located within and adjacent to property owned by the Olivenhain Water District at 16893 Camino San Bernardo, San Diego, San Diego County, California. The purpose of the study was to assess the project area for its potential to support sensitive biological resources, including special-status species or sensitive habitats. SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) was contracted by RESCOM Environmental Corp (RESCOM) to provide these biological services in support of the project, which is being proposed by Cricket Communications.

The biological study included database searches and a field survey to ascertain which sensitive biological resources occur, or have the potential to occur, within the project area and its vicinity. The field visit consisted of evaluating the project area for its potential to support sensitive plant and wildlife species, and vegetation mapping. This information is used in the final section of this report in a discussion of potential project-related impacts to special-status species and/or habitats.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cricket Communications proposes to install an unmanned telecommunications facility. The facility will consist of three antennas and associated equipment cabinets. Three sectors of antennas will be mounted on the existing Black Mountain Norte Tank structure. Associated antenna cables and cable trays will extend from the antennas to a proposed ground-mounted equipment cabinet, and one wall-mounted utility cabinet, built on a concrete slab located approximately 25 feet southeast of the existing water tank. An access and utility easement will be located along an existing access road that extends from Camino San Bernardo to the existing tank structure. Utilities will be installed below the surface of the easement, and

will tie in to utility vaults located beneath Camino San Bernardo. The entire footprint of the proposed project occurs over 3.0 acres, and includes the existing water tank, existing access easement, and existing developed or disturbed pads associated with the water tank. The project footprint and construction activities associated with implementation of the project (trenching, etc.) will be confined to previously disturbed and developed areas in the vicinity of the existing water tank and its access easement.

## **PROJECT LOCATION**

The project is located within the County of San Diego just outside the San Diego Corporate Boundary, situated south of Lake Hodges and west of Interstate 15 at 16893 Camino San Bernardo. The project area is situated at an elevation of approximately 800 feet (245 meters), located in Township 13 South, Range 2 West, Section 28 of the Escondido 7.5-Minute U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle at Latitude 38°39.036N and Longitude 121°11.052W (Attachment 1).

## **PROJECT SETTING**

The Black Mountain Norte Tank is situated on a ridge top, with slopes extending to the northeast and southwest. The existing blacktop access road to the tank extends from Camino San Bernardo northwest of the tank, and is situated along the northeast-facing slope to the parcel containing the water tank. The parcel surrounding the Olivenhain Water District parcel is undeveloped. This parcel (APN 678-242-1100) is bound on the northwest by Camino Del Norte, on the northwest by Camino San Bernardo, on the south by Bernardo Center Drive, and on the west and east by large housing developments. Open space is located south of the project area across from Bernardo Center Drive.

SWCA conducted a site visit to the project area on July 30, 2007 to record the biological conditions within and adjacent to the project area. Vegetation within the Olivenhain Water District parcel consists primarily of ornamental landscaping and ruderal vegetation in disturbed areas. Native coastal scrub vegetation occurs over most of the surrounding parcel (APN 678-242-1100). A non-native grassland occurs over an area northwest of the existing water tank, also on the surrounding parcel. The area of the access road tie-in with Camino San Bernardo is vegetated with ornamental landscaping. Further details regarding the vegetation communities within and adjacent to the project area are presented in the following section of this report.

Soils on the majority of the project area, including the top of the ridge, consist of San Miguel-Exchequer rocky silt loams. These soils consist of moderately well drained loams with a silty clay subsoil, developed in metavolcanic material. At the northern end of the project area, where the access road meets with Camino San Bernardo, the soils consist of Diablo-Olivenhain clay loam. These soils are well-drained, moderately deep clay loams derived from calcareous sandstone and shale (Bowman et al. 1973).

The project area and the surrounding parcel are located within the hardline preserve within the unincorporated Lake Hodges segment of the San Diego County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) (Attachment 2). The MSCP includes prescribed compensation guidelines, conservation strategies, and minimization measures to mitigate for potential project impacts to sensitive species and their habitats and is pursuant to the federal and California Endangered Species Acts and the California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. Rather than focusing efforts on individual species, the MSCP is designed to preserve native habitat for multiple species. This approach allows for preservation of entire ecosystems (e.g., coastal sage scrub) on a large scale, rather than a single species, project-by-project basis as under the original state and federal species protection laws. Within the MSCP, development is limited to ensure the long-term viability and recovery of 85 “covered” species. Through

this strategy, the MSCP preserves a network of habitat and open space, protecting biodiversity and providing an economic benefit by streamlining compliance with federal and state wildlife laws.

## HABITATS/VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

### METHODS

#### Field Visit

SWCA conducted a field visit of the project area, which consisted of a reconnaissance-level survey, to identify and map vegetation types within and adjacent to the project area.

#### Vegetation Mapping

SWCA conducted a reconnaissance-level survey for vegetation mapping. During the field visit the study area was walked, and plant communities were mapped. The purpose of this survey was to identify vegetation and land cover types and to identify habitats with the potential to support special-status plants and wildlife.

Vegetation types and land cover types were recorded on aerial photographs and described in field notes. Vegetation communities were defined based on dominant species present and classified using descriptions provided by Holland (1986) and Oberbauer (1996). Dominant species are those that attain 50 percent cover or more or, for two or more species to be considered co-dominant, individual species that attain a minimum of 20 percent cover. Percent cover was visually estimated based on the proportion of ground, expressed as a percentage, which was covered by the canopy of individual species. Plant nomenclature followed *The Jepson Manual of Higher Plants of California* (Hickman 1993).

Wildlife habitats corresponded to the recorded vegetation types, but were modified somewhat to correspond to habitat types described in the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System (CDFG 1988). While vegetation types were defined by plant species composition, wildlife habitats include other important physical environmental characteristics such as rock outcrops and open water. In some cases, a wildlife habitat type may include more than one vegetation type where these types provide similar habitat characteristics and support a similar assemblage of wildlife species.

### RESULTS

The reconnaissance field survey was conducted by SWCA biologist Lauren Seckel on July 30, 2007. Conditions at the project during the survey are detailed below. The field visit consisted of vegetation mapping of the project area and adjacent parcel, assessing habitat within and adjacent to the project area for its potential to support sensitive species, and searching for sensitive plant and wildlife species.

<b>Biologists</b>	<b>Time and date</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
Lauren Seckel	11:30 – 2:45 p.m. 30 July 2007	Clear, breezy (7 mph), warm (22° C)

#### Vegetation Mapping

The conditions that occurred within and adjacent to the project area included: (1) a paved access road and cement pad surrounding the existing water tank that was bordered by ruderal vegetation and landscaped

areas; (2) coastal sage scrub on the hillsides to the north, east, and south of the project area; and (3) a non-native grassland to the northwest (Attachment 3).

The coastal sage scrub occurring over the majority of the undeveloped parcel adjacent to the project area is characterized as Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub (Holland [1986] Element Code 32500). Coastal sage scrub provides habitat for several endangered and threatened species and is listed as a Tier II vegetation in the San Diego MSCP. This vegetative community is dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), and laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*). Other species observed in this community include coyotebrush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and the non-natives rip-gut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), artichoke thistle (*Cynara cardunculus*), and sweet fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*). Wildlife species observed within the coastal sage scrub included coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*), western kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), California towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*), house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), and American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*). The coastal California gnatcatcher is listed as federally threatened and is covered by the MSCP, and is discussed further below. Although coastal sage scrub covers much of the immediately adjacent land within the MSCP hardline preserve, this habitat type does not occur within the project area.

Northwest of the existing tank and immediately adjacent to the project area, the vegetation community is characteristic of Non-native Grassland (Holland [1986] Element Code 42200). Non-native grassland provides habitat for nesting birds and is listed as a Tier III vegetation in the San Diego MSCP. This vegetation community is dominated by red brome and black mustard (*Brassica nigra*). Also present were rip-gut brome, coyotebrush, and California buckwheat. Although no wildlife species were directly observed in this habitat, several rodent burrows were noted. This habitat may provide nesting habitat for ground-nesting avian species, and foraging habitat for many wildlife species, including special-status wildlife. Although non-native grassland occurs on immediately adjacent land within the MSCP hardline preserve, this habitat type does not occur within the project area.

Large portions of the project area have previously been developed, including the existing water tank, the existing access easement, and a concrete pad associated with the water tank. Several areas immediately adjacent to the developed areas are better characterized as disturbed, and include gravel or dirt lots adjacent to the water tank, access easement, and concrete pads. These habitat types can be characterized as both Developed (Oberbauer [1996] Code 12000) and Disturbed Habitat (Oberbauer [1996] Code 11300). Both habitat types are listed as a Tier IV vegetation in the San Diego MSCP. The Developed area includes the paved access easement, the existing water tank, and the concrete pad immediately surrounding the water tank. The area classified as Disturbed Habitat can be described as a narrow buffer zone around the Developed area. It includes a narrow unpaved strip of land immediately adjacent to and on either side of the access road, and dirt and gravel covered areas surrounding the water tower's cement pad. Weedy, ruderal species were evident in the disturbed areas, including Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), sour clover (*Melilotus indica*), black mustard, soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), rip-gut brome, red brome, redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and tocolote (*Centaurea melitensis*). The areas of disturbed habitat contain limited native vegetation. Within the disturbed habitat, wildlife species observed included house finch and northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*). Developed areas within the project area account for most of the acreage – 2.2 acres. Disturbed areas account for 0.4 acres within the project area.

Landscaped areas occurred in the area surrounding the water tank, and along Camino San Bernardo at the tie-in with the access road. The landscaped areas contained non-native ornamental vegetation, including eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* sp.), oleander (*Nerium oleander*), acacia (*Acacia* sp.), and gazania (*Gazania rigens*). Weedy vegetation had invaded the landscaped areas, including tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), red brome, rip-gut brome, and bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), among others. Wildlife species

observed within the landscaped areas included rock dove (*Columba livia*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), lesser goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*), California towhee, and house finch. Though no nests were observed, the larger eucalyptus trees immediately adjacent to the existing water tank have the potential to provide nesting habitat for raptors. Landscaped areas covered 0.4 acres within the project area.

### **Survey Limitations**

The survey of the property was limited only by the time of year in which it was conducted. Because the survey was conducted in at the end of July during a particularly dry summer, floral resources, particularly annual and perennial plants that may have prematurely senesced or were under extreme drought stress, may not have been visible.

## **SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES**

### **METHODS**

#### **Literature Search**

SWCA reviewed existing sources of information regarding occurrences of special-status species and assessed the potential for occurrence of these species within the project area. Special-status species are plants and animals in one or more of the following categories:

- Species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered under FESA (50 CFR 17.12 [listed plants], 50 CFR 17.11 [listed animals], and various notices in the Federal Register [FR] [proposed species]).
- Species that are candidates for possible future listing as threatened or endangered under ESA (67 FR 40657, June 13, 2002).
- Species listed or proposed for listing by the State of California as threatened or endangered under CESA (14 California Code of Regulations 670.5).
- Species that meet the definitions of rare or endangered under CEQA (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15380).
- Plants listed as rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act (California Fish and Game Code Section 1900 et seq.).
- Plants considered by the CNPS to be "rare, threatened, or endangered in California" (Lists 1B and 2 in California Native Plant Society 2001).
- Plants listed by CNPS as plants about which more information is needed to determine their status and plants of limited distribution (Lists 3 and 4 in California Native Plant Society 2001), which may be included as special-status species on the basis of local significance or recent biological information.
- Animal species of special-concern as listed by CDFG (2006).
- Animals fully protected in California (California Fish and Game Code Sections 3511 [birds], 4700 [mammals], 5050 [amphibians and reptiles], and 5515 [fish]).
- Species that are "covered" under the San Diego County MSCP, including listed species, "Narrow Endemic Species," or other sensitive species.

The following sources of information were consulted before conducting the field survey:

- The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (2007) for the Escondido U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-Minute Quadrangle (USGS Quad) and eight surrounding quadrangles in the project vicinity including: San Marcos, Rodriguez Mountain, Rancho Santa Fe, San Pasqual, Del Mar, Poway, and San Vicente Reservoir; accessed July 18, 2007.
- CNPS 2007 online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California for the Escondido U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-Minute Quadrangle (USGS Quad) and eight surrounding quadrangles in the project vicinity including: San Marcos, Rodriguez Mountain, Rancho Santa Fe, San Pasqual, Del Mar, Poway, and San Vicente Reservoir; accessed July 18, 2007.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Fish & Wildlife Office Endangered and Threatened Species List (San Diego County); accessed July 18, 2007.

### **Field Survey**

Concurrent with vegetation mapping of the project area and adjacent lands, SWCA conducted a reconnaissance-level survey for the purpose of identifying special-status plants and wildlife, including MSCP-covered species, and to determine the potential for special-status plant and wildlife species to occur within habitats on and adjacent to the project area. All plant species observed during the survey were identified to species or further using taxonomic nomenclature provided in *The Jepson Manual of Higher Plants of California* (Hickman 1993). Wildlife species were recorded during survey of the study area and were detected by sight and sound. Visual identification was aided by 10.5 x 43 binoculars. Wildlife habitats were also assessed within the study area. Special attention was given to the potential for nesting bird species, including raptors, that could nest within and adjacent to the study area. All species were identified to the lowest possible taxonomic level. No nocturnal or protocol-level surveys were conducted.

### **Sensitive Species Assessment**

Following the database searches and field survey, SWCA assessed of the potential for occurrence for other special-status species not covered under the MSCP. This consisted of assessing the biological conditions within the project area and the known occurrences of special-status species within the project's vicinity. During the assessment, each species was assigned to one of the following categories:

**Present:** Species is known to occur within the project area, based on recent records, and/or was observed onsite during the field survey.

**May occur:** Species is known to occur within the vicinity of the project area (within five miles), and there is suitable habitat within the project area.

**Not likely to occur:** Species is known to occur in the vicinity of the project area (within five miles); however, there is poor quality or marginal habitat in the project area. Alternatively, there is suitable habitat in the project area; however, there are no records or only historic records within five miles, and the species was not observed during surveys. If the species occurs at the project area, it would likely be as a migrant, and the species is not likely to reproduce (breed or nest) within the project area due to a lack of suitable habitat or because the project area is outside of their known breeding range.

**Absent:** Species is not known to occur in or in the vicinity of the project area, and/or there is no suitable habitat for the species within the project area. Alternatively, a species was surveyed for during the appropriate season with negative results for species occurrence.

## **RESULTS**

### **Field Survey**

Plant and wildlife species observed during the field visit are presented in Attachments 4 and 5. Most of the species observed are commonly occurring species. However, one sensitive species, coastal California gnatcatcher, was observed within the coastal sage scrub habitat immediately adjacent to the project area. The observation of this species is discussed in the next section. The CNDDDB Field Survey Form is presented in Attachment 6.

### **Sensitive Species and Habitat Assessment**

Attachment 7 provides a list of all special-status plant and wildlife species identified by the literature search as having the potential to occur in the vicinity of the project area. It also provides a description of typical habitat requirements, legal status, and an evaluation of the potential of occurrence within the project area. Attachment 8 provides a map of special-status species occurrences within five miles of the project area. Below, we provide expanded descriptions for those species that were either present within the project area, or their occurrence potential was evaluated as “may occur” within the project area.

### **Special-status Plants**

During the field survey, habitats capable of supporting special-status plant species were evaluated within the project area. Based on the analysis provided in Attachment 7, the following species were eliminated from further consideration because 1) there is no suitable habitat within the project area AND there are no local records (within five miles) in the vicinity of the project area, and/or 2) the project area is outside of their known range. Alternatively, although there are records of these species within the project’s vicinity (within 5 miles), there is no suitable habitat within the project area to support the occurrence of these species. These species were assessed as “absent:”

- Shaw’s agave
- Aphanisma
- Rainbow manzanita
- San Diego milk-vetch
- Coastal dunes milk-vetch
- South coast saltscale
- Parish’s brittlescale
- Golden-spined cereus
- Orcutt’s brodiaea
- Lakeside ceanothus
- Southern tarplant
- Orcutt’s pincushion



- Long-spined spineflower
- Sea dahlia
- San Diego sand aster
- Del Mar Mesa sand aster
- Short-leaved dudleya
- Hoover's button-celery
- San Diego button-celery
- Campbell's liverwort
- Mission Canyon bluecup
- San Diego gumplant
- Ramona horkelia
- San Diego marsh-elder
- Coulter's goldfields
- Heart-leaved pitcher sage
- Nuttall's lotus
- Felt-leaved monardella
- Willowy monardella
- Little mousetail
- Spreading navarretia
- Coast woolly-heads
- Gander's ragwort
- Torrey pine
- San Diego mesa mint
- Otay Mesa mint
- Rayless ragwort
- Estuary seablite

Based on the analysis provided in Attachment 7, the following species were eliminated from further consideration either because: 1) although appropriate habitat was identified within the project area, there are no recent local records of their occurrence, as determined through the CNDDDB, OR 2) although there are recent local records of their occurrence within the vicinity of the project area, habitat within the project area was determined to be to be marginal, limited, or otherwise unfavorable. These species were assessed as "not likely to occur:"

- San Diego thornmint
- California adolphia
- San Diego ambrosia
- Del Mar manzanita
- Encinitas baccharis
- Thread-leaved brodiaea
- White coast ceanothus

- Smooth tarplant
- Orcutt's spineflower
- Delicate clarkia
- Summer holly
- Variegated dudleya
- Sticky dudleya
- Palmer's goldenbush
- Cliff spurge
- San Diego barrel cactus
- Orcutt's hazardia
- Decumbent goldenbush
- Robinson's peppergrass
- San Diego goldenstar
- Snake cholla
- Nuttall's scrub oak
- San Miguel savory
- Bottle liverwort
- Purple stemodia
- Parry's tetracoccus
- Coastal triquetrella

### **Special Status Wildlife**

During the field survey, habitats capable of supporting special-status wildlife species were evaluated within the project area. Based on the analysis provided in Attachment 7, the following species were eliminated from further consideration because 1) there is no suitable habitat within the project area AND there are no local records (within five miles) in the vicinity of the project area, and/or 2) the project area is outside of their known range. Alternatively, there are records of these species within the project's vicinity (within 5 miles), there is no suitable habitat within the project area to support the occurrence of these species. These species were assessed as "absent:"

- San Diego fairy shrimp
- Sandy beach tiger beetle
- Tiger beetle
- Globose dune beetle
- California melitta bee
- Riverside fairy shrimp
- Mimic tryonia
- Arroyo toad
- Western spadefoot
- Western pond turtle
- Two-striped garter snake

- Tricolored blackbird
- Golden eagle
- Western snowy plover
- Southwestern willow flycatcher
- Yellow-breasted chat
- California black rail
- Belding's savannah sparrow
- White-faced ibis
- Light-footed clapper rail
- California least tern
- Least Bell's vireo
- Spotted bat
- Big free-tailed bat
- Pacific pocket mouse

Based on the analysis provided in Attachment 7, the following species were eliminated from further consideration either because: 1) although appropriate habitat was identified within the project area, there are no recent local records of their occurrence, as determined through the CNDDDB, OR 2) although there are recent local records of their occurrence within the vicinity of the project area, habitat within the project area was determined to be to be marginal, limited, or otherwise unfavorable. Alternatively, species may have been eliminated from further consideration because, 1) they would use the project area only as a migrant; OR 2) while they may occasionally use the project area for foraging, they are not likely to be resident or reproduce there due to a lack of appropriate habitat or because the project area is outside of their known breeding range; OR 3) the site does not likely provide suitable habitat for a sustaining population of this species. These species were assessed as "not likely to occur:"

- Monarch butterfly
- Coastal western whiptail
- Rosy boa
- San Diego ringneck snake
- Coronado skink
- Coast patch-nosed snake
- Cooper's hawk
- Burrowing owl
- White-tailed kite
- California horned lark
- Pallid bat
- Mexican long-tongued bat
- Stephan's kangaroo rat
- California mastiff bat
- Western yellow bat
- San Diego desert woodrat

- Pocketed free-tailed bat
- American badger

Based on the analysis provided in Attachment 7, the following species have either been observed within the project area, or their occurrence potential was assessed as “may occur” within the project area due to the presence of suitable habitat and known local records in the project’s vicinity. Brief species accounts for the following species are provided below:

- Orange-throated whiptail
- Northern red-diamond rattlesnake
- Coast horned lizard
- Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow
- Bell’s sage sparrow
- San Diego cactus wren
- Coastal California gnatcatcher
- Dulzura pocket mouse
- Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse
- San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit

### **Orange-throated Whiptail**

The orange-throated whiptail (*Aspidoscelis hyperythra*) is covered under the MSCP and is listed as a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are eleven occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). This species inhabits open grassland, coastal scrub, and chaparral. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

### **Northern Red-diamond Rattlesnake**

The northern red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber ruber*) is a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are two occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). This species is most commonly associated with large rocks or boulders among heavy brush, including dense chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and desert slope scrub associations. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

### **Coast Horned Lizard**

Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum*) is covered under the MSCP, and listed as a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are twelve occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). The coast horned lizard inhabits coastal sage scrub and chaparral in areas of friable, rocky, or sandy soils in arid to semi-arid conditions. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

### **Southern California Rufous-crowned Sparrow**

Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps canescens*) is covered under the MSCP, and is listed as a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 1 species. There are eight occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). The species is a permanent resident of southern California and inhabits rocky hillsides in grassland, coastal scrub, and open chaparral. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area and this species may occur and nest there.

### **Bell's Sage Sparrow**

Bell's sage sparrow (*Amphispiza belli belli*) is covered under the MSCP, and is listed as a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 1 species. There is one occurrence of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). Bell's sage sparrow breeds in low, dense chamise chaparral and in dry scrub communities, often with stands of cactus. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area and this species may occur and nest there.

### **San Diego Cactus Wren**

San Diego cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis*) is covered under the MSCP, and is listed as a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 1 species. There thirteen occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). The coastal cactus wren is a non-migratory resident of the coastal sage scrub community. The cactus wren additionally requires the presence of, but is not entirely restricted to, relatively arborescent (more than 3 feet tall) stands of cactus, including prickly pear and cholla cactus, where it constructs nests. No coast stands of these cacti species were observed in the coastal sage scrub habitat within the project area or its immediate vicinity. Therefore, although San Diego cactus wrens may forage immediately adjacent to the project area, they are not expected to nest there.

### **Coastal California Gnatcatcher**

The coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) is a small non-migratory member of the Old World warbler family (Sylviidae). This species is covered under the MSCP, and is listed as federally threatened and a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 1 species. An occurrence of this species was previously identified within the immediate vicinity of the project area in 1991. There are an additional thirty-four occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). Appropriate nesting habitat for this species occurs immediately adjacent to the project area. Furthermore, four gnatcatchers were observed foraging together in the coastal sage scrub habitat adjacent to the project area during the field survey (see Attachment 3, Biological Resource Map, for location of observations). Therefore, this species occurs within the project area vicinity, and may nest immediately adjacent to the project area.

### **Dulzura Pocket Mouse**

The Dulzura pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus californicus femoralis*) is a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are two occurrences of this species within five miles of the current study area (Attachment 8). This species inhabits open coastal sage scrub, chaparral and grassland. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists

immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

#### **Northwestern San Diego Pocket Mouse**

The Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse (*Chaetodipus fallax fallax*) is a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are two occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). This species inhabits open or disturbed coastal sage scrub and grassland in primarily sandy soils. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

#### **San Diego Black-tailed Jackrabbit**

The San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*) is a California Species of Special Concern. The County lists it as a Group 2 species. There are three occurrences of this species within five miles of the project area (Attachment 8). This species inhabits plant communities that include a mixture of shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Areas containing a mixture of shrubland and herbaceous cover are preferred over pure stands of shrubs or herbs. Although this species was not observed during the field survey, suitable habitat exists immediately adjacent to the project area. Individuals of this species may traverse the project area to access suitable habitat, such as crossing the access easement.

### **JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS**

There are no potentially jurisdictional wetlands, waterways, or riparian habitat located within or adjacent to the project area.

### **OTHER UNIQUE FEATURES/RESOURCES**

#### **WILDLIFE CORRIDORS**

A wildlife corridor, also called a habitat linkage or landscape linkage, is a large patch of habitat connecting two or more larger areas of habitat that would otherwise be isolated from one another. Wildlife corridors are typically bordered on two sides by urban areas or other types of human development. A functioning wildlife corridor allows for ease of movement between habitat patches. For example, canyon bottoms with a well-developed tree canopy often serve as wildlife corridors and offer food, shelter, and water, as well as ease of movement, depending upon the density of the understory. Corridors function to prevent habitat fragmentation that would result in the loss of species that require large contiguous expanses of unbroken habitat and/or that occur in low densities. Habitat fragmentation can result in increases in the number of non-native species and may allow inbreeding to occur in species whose populations are small because they have become confined to smaller areas. This, in turn, reduces the rate of reproductive success. Fragmentation also reduces functioning ecosystems to small pockets, decreasing biodiversity and the interactive processes required for healthy ecosystem functioning. Thus, corridors promote gene flow, allow re-colonization of areas following catastrophic events such as fire, prevent the loss of large animals by linking suitable habitat areas, and help to ensure the survival of native species that cannot compete with more aggressive non-native species in fragmented habitats.

The project area is bordered by existing open space within the hardline preserve. Because the project area contains no native habitats, it does not serve as a wildlife corridor linking two or more open space areas.

Moreover, because the project is located almost entirely within the footprint of the Olivenhain Water District's Use Permit area, the project will not restrict wildlife movements any more than the conditions that currently exist there.

## **NESTING BIRD HABITAT**

Appropriate nesting habitat for birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Fish and Game Codes 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 occurs within the project area and its immediate vicinity. Numerous bird species were identified throughout the project area, including those that nest in non-native grassland, Diegan sage coastal scrub, and landscaped habitats, including eucalyptus trees.

## **SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION**

### **IMPACT ANALYSIS METHODS**

In support of the environmental analyses required for compliance with the MSCP and CEQA, SWCA assessed potential impacts to biological resources, including special-status species, within the project area. The analysis included identification of potentially significant impacts based on the CEQA thresholds from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. To reduce or avoid potentially significant impacts, SWCA also identified mitigation measures, which are presented in the following section of this report. Thresholds used in analyzing impacts resulting from the proposed project include the following:

- Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?
- Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?
- Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?
- Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

## **IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECT IMPACTS**

The purpose of this investigation was to determine whether the proposed project would have a significant negative impact on sensitive biological resources within or adjacent to the project area. The following discussion details the analysis of potential impacts that the proposed project may have on sensitive biological resources. The significance of potential impacts of the proposed project was assessed per the County of San Diego's Guidelines for Determining Significance, Biological Resources (2006).

### **Impacts to Sensitive Species**

#### **Special-status Avian Species; Nesting Migratory, Raptorial, and Native Avian Species**

One special-status avian species, the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher, was observed in an area of coastal sage scrub immediately adjacent to the project area. The occurrence consisted of four gnatcatchers of unknown sex, observed foraging together in two locations. Three other special-status avian species have the potential to occur and/or nest immediately adjacent to the project area, including Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, Bell's sage sparrow, San Diego cactus wren. Finally, nesting migratory, raptorial, and native avian species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Fish and Game Codes 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 could potentially nest within or immediately adjacent to the project area.

The construction activities associated with the proposed project could result in significant impacts to actively nesting birds, including the nests of special-status species. The breeding season for birds occurs between January 15 through August 31; implementation of the project during this period could result in both direct and indirect impacts. Direct project impacts would include the destruction of active nests, eggs, or young located within vegetation removed within the proposed project area. Indirect impacts would include noise (exceeding 60 dB(A)) and disturbance associated with the construction activities that cause birds in adjacent habitats to abandon their nests. Any impacts (direct or indirect) that result in the abandonment or destruction of an active nest or the destruction of eggs or young of any protected avian species, including special-status species, would be considered a significant impact.

#### **Special-status Reptile and Mammal Species**

Several special-status reptilian and mammalian species have the potential to occur within and immediately adjacent to the project area. These include the orange-throated whiptail, coast horned lizard, northern red-diamond rattlesnake, Dulzura pocket mouse, northwestern San Diego pocket mouse, and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit. Construction activities associated with the proposed project, such as trenching for the utility easement, could result in the trapping and possible destruction of individuals of these special-status species, which would be considered a significant impact.

## **PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES**

### **Mitigation for Impacts to Sensitive Species**

#### **Avian Species**

SWCA recommends that construction activities associated with implementation of the project be performed outside of the breeding season for birds. Avian species, including special-status species that



could occur and breed within and adjacent to the project area, typically breed between January 15 through August 31. If the project cannot be implemented between September 1 and January 14, the project proponent should retain a qualified biologist to perform pre-construction nest surveys to identify active nests within and adjacent to (up to 500 feet) the project area.

Active non-raptor nests (including those of coastal California gnatcatcher and other special-status species) identified within the project area or within 300 feet of the project area should be marked with a 300-foot buffer, and the buffer area would need to be avoided by construction activities. Active raptor nests within and adjacent to the project site should be marked with a 500-foot buffer and the buffer avoided.

### **Reptile and Mammal Species**

SWCA recommends that a temporary fence such as a silt fence be placed along the edge of the construction limits adjacent to coastal sage scrub and grassland habitats during construction to serve as a limit line for equipment operators, as well as an obstacle for animals traversing the area. If the proposed utility easement trench is to remain open for more than one day, it is recommended that a qualified biologist monitor the trench for the presence of reptiles, amphibians, or rodents that may have become trapped in the trench overnight prior to the commencement of work the following day.

## **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

The proposed project is located largely within the footprint of the existing Black Mountain Norte Tank, which is owned and operated by the Olivenhain Water District. At least one other telecommunications facility has already been co-located on the water tank. Potential impacts associated with the maintenance of these facilities are likely minimal, and would include periodic vehicular traffic along the existing access easement to reach the facilities. Because of the low volume and intermittent use of the easement by vehicular traffic, potential impacts to plant or wildlife species would not be considered a significant impact.

The addition of the proposed project's facility to the existing facilities would not likely result in a considerable contribution of impacts. Maintenance of the proposed project's facilities would be intermittent, and therefore would not contribute substantially to the current use of the area. The project is not expected to result in significant cumulative impacts to sensitive biological resources.

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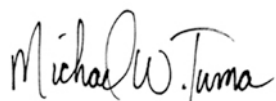
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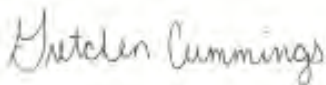
## PREPARER AND PERSONS/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

This report was prepared by Michael W. Tuma, Senior Wildlife Biologist with SWCA Environmental Consultants, with contributions by Lauren Seckel, Biologist with SWCA. The report was reviewed for accuracy and consistency with County of San Diego guidelines by Gretchen Cummings, Principal Biologist with Cummings and Associates, who appears on the County list of approved biologists. Please direct questions or comments regarding this report to:



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mtuma@swca.com

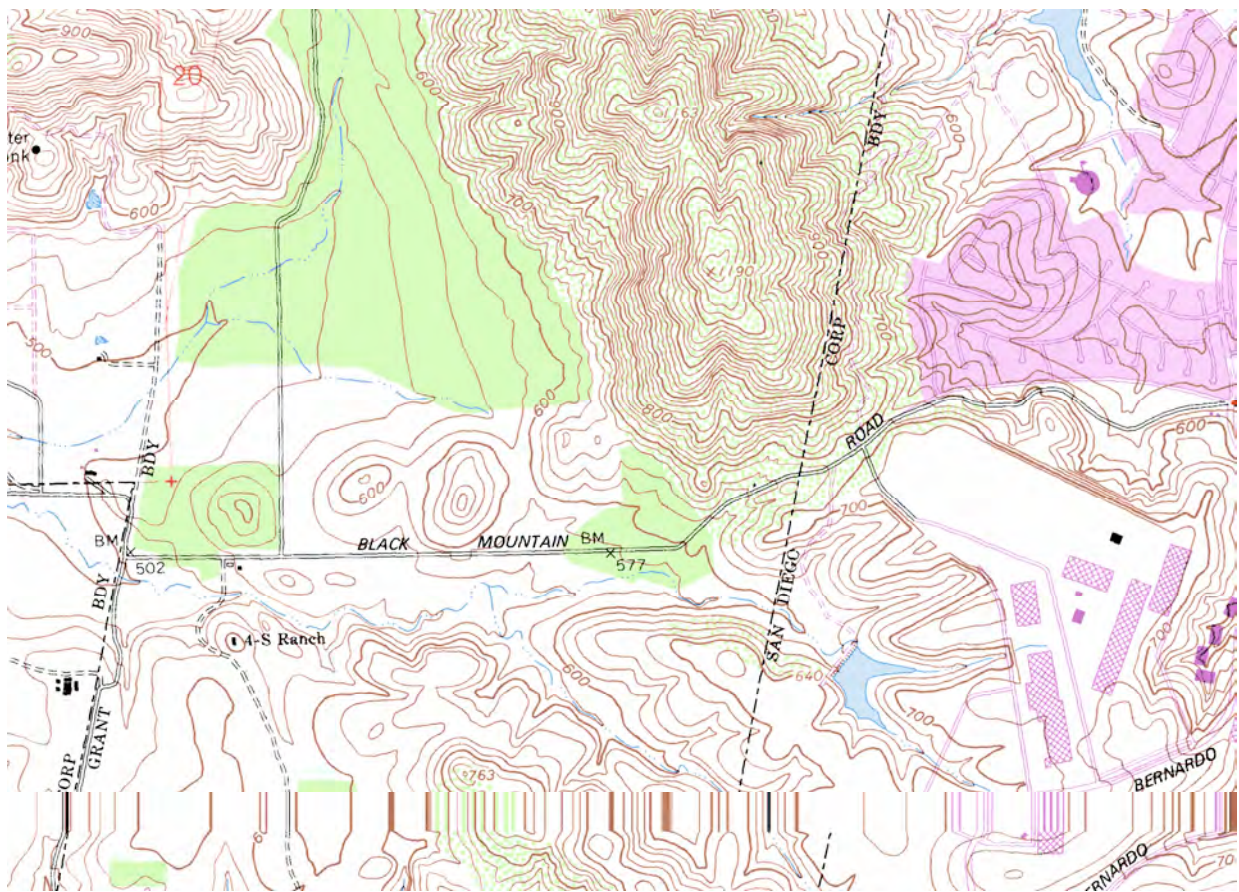
or



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Ramona, California 92065  
Office: (619) 233-5454  
gretchen.bc@sbcglobal.net

## **Attachment 1**

Project Location Map



## **Attachment 2**

Proposed Take Authorization Area Within MSCP Preserve



# Black Mountain Norte Tank



Project Area (Take Authorization Area)

0 150 300 Feet

0 50 100 Meters

**SWCA**  
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1 inch equals 300 feet  
USGS 24K Quad: Escondido, CA (1975)



Camino San Bernardo

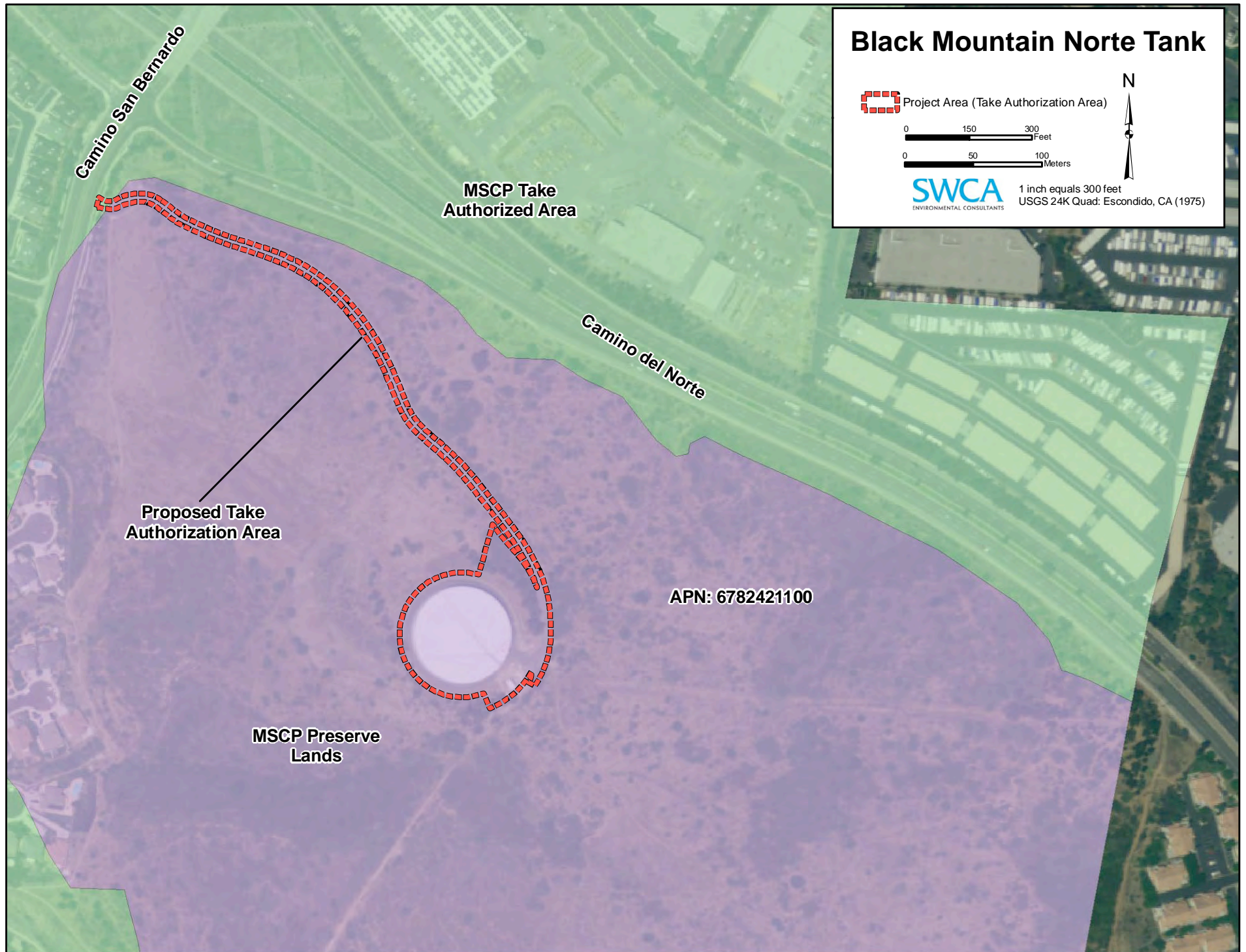
MSCP Take  
Authorized Area

Camino del Norte

Proposed Take  
Authorization Area

APN: 6782421100

MSCP Preserve  
Lands



## **Attachment 3**

Biological Resource Map



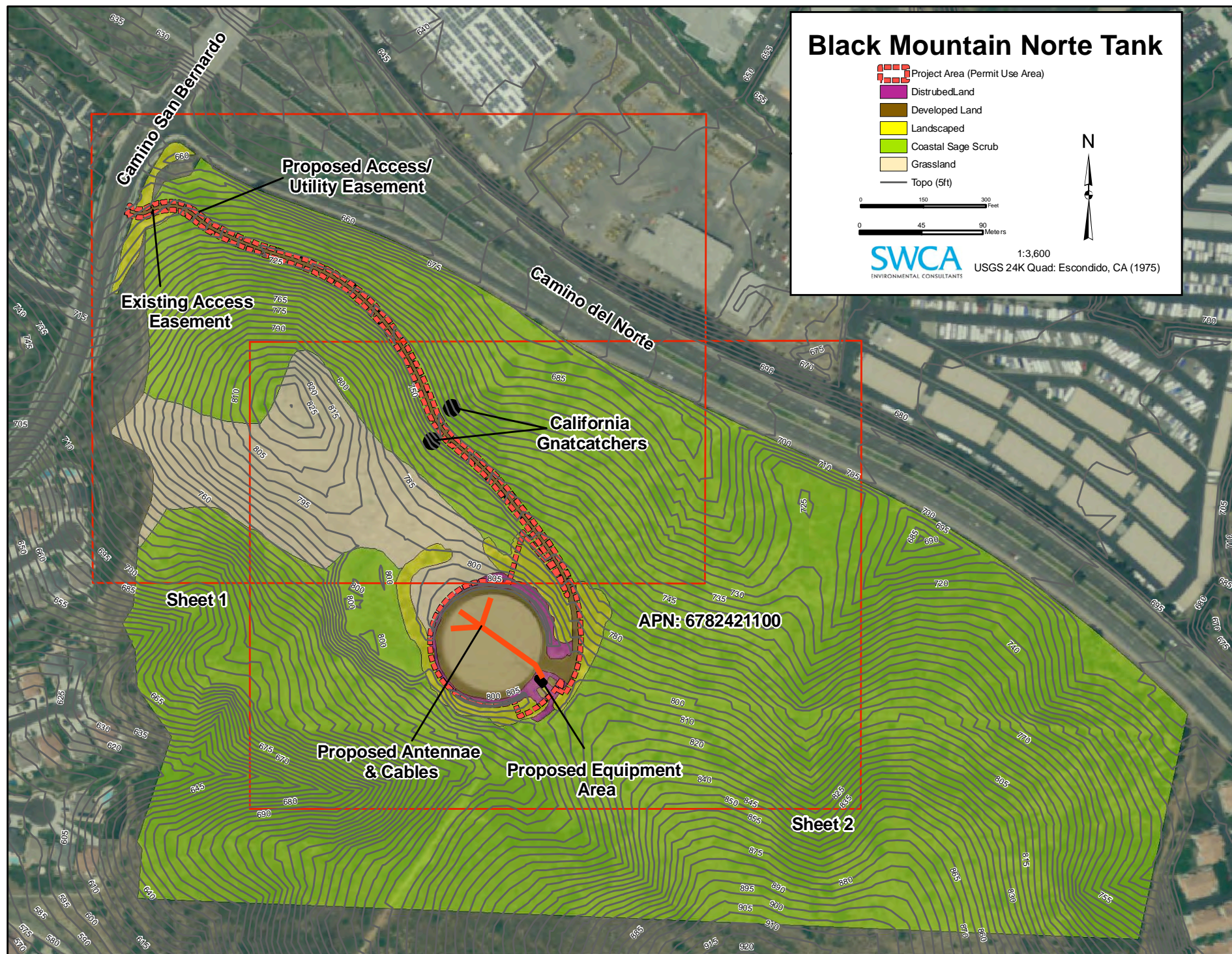
# Black Mountain Norte Tank

- Project Area (Permit Use Area)
- Disturbed Land
- Developed Land
- Landscaped
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Grassland
- Topo (5ft)



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1:3,600  
USGS 24K Quad: Escondido, CA (1975)





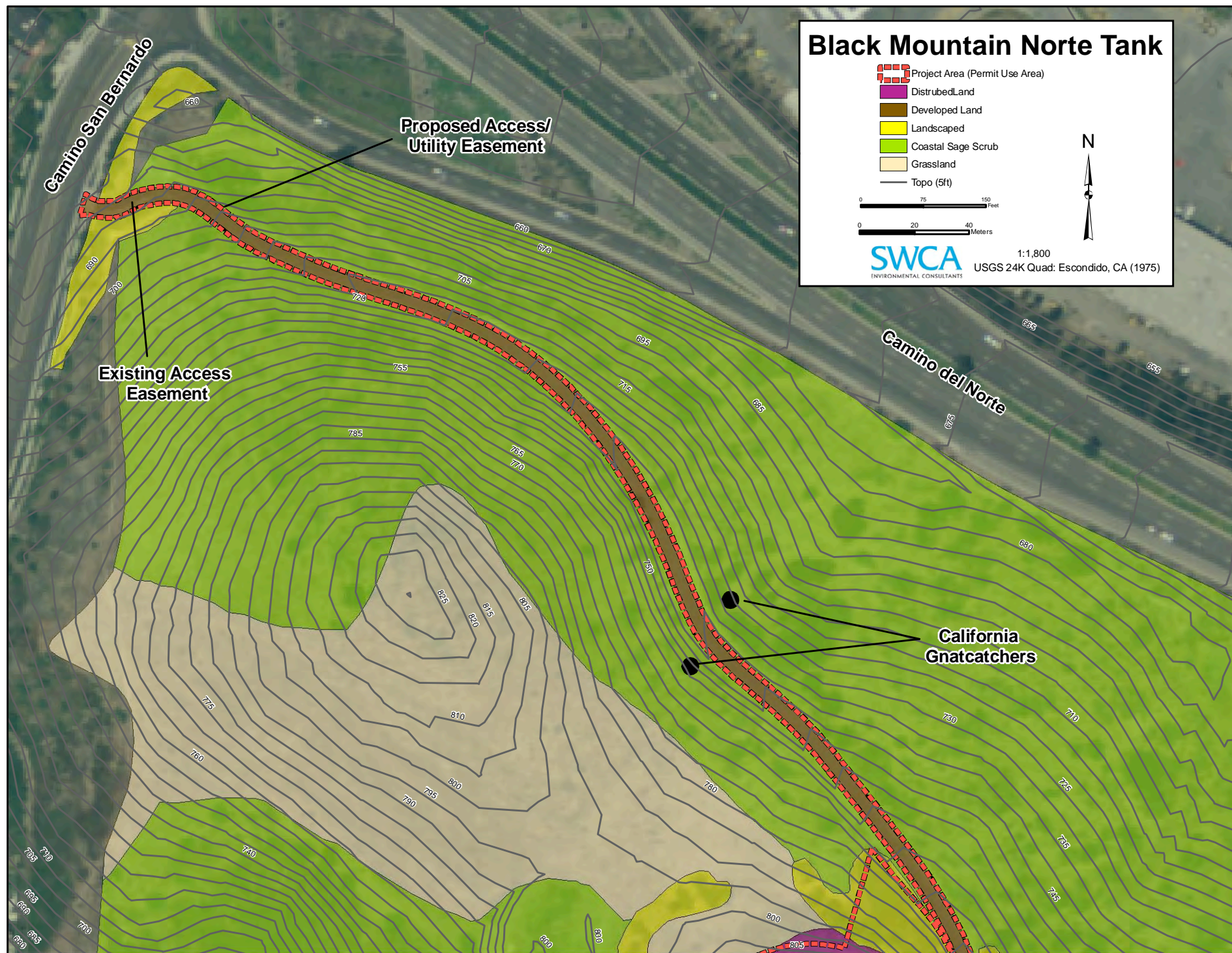
# Black Mountain Norte Tank

- Project Area (Permit Use Area)
- Disturbed Land
- Developed Land
- Landscaped
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Grassland
- Topo (5ft)



SWCA  
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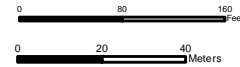
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# Black Mountain Norte Tank

- Project Area (Permit Use Area)
- Disturbed Land
- Developed Land
- Landscaped
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Grassland
- Topo (5ft)



**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

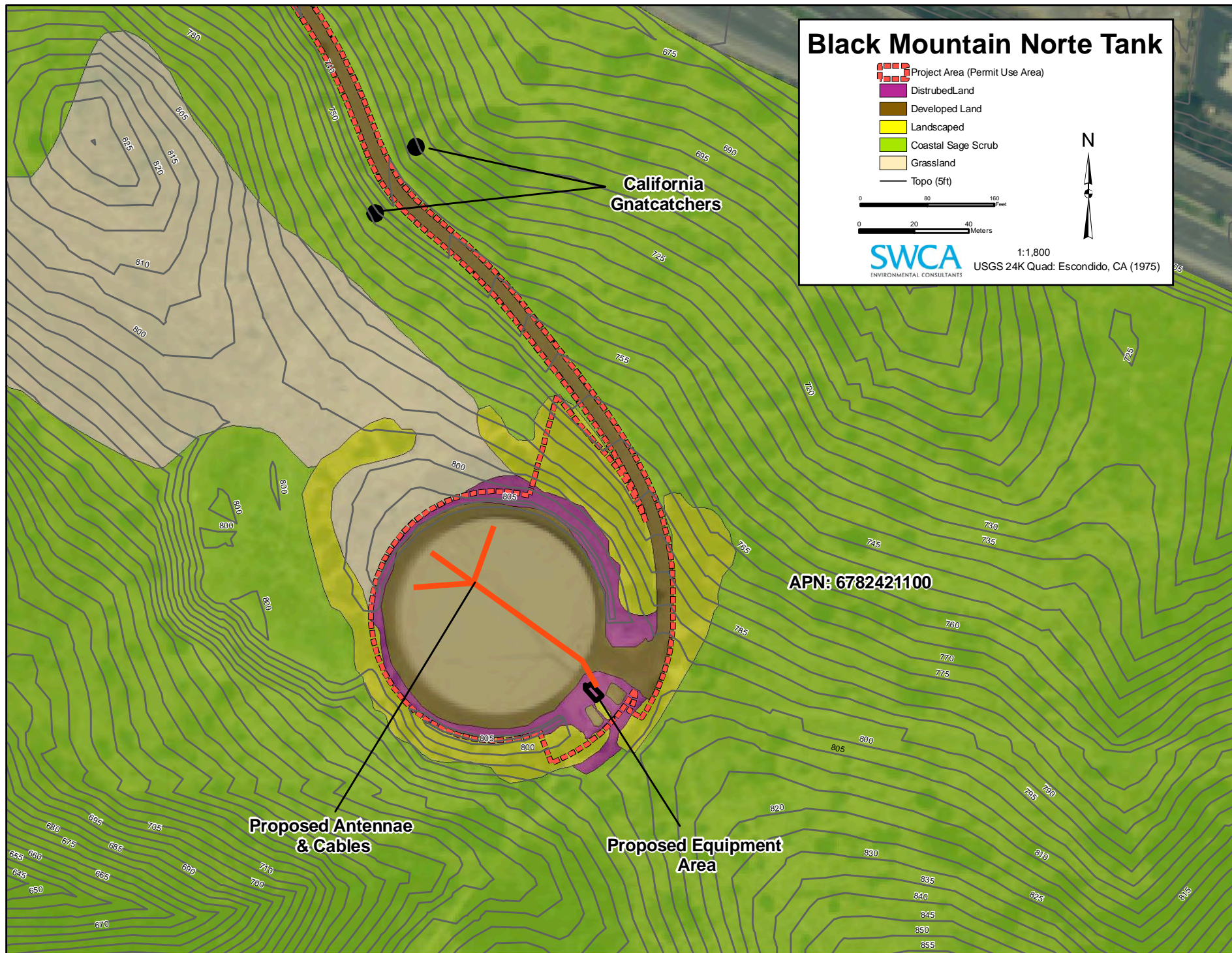
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USGS 24K Quad: Escondido, CA (1975)

APN: 6782421100

Proposed Antennae  
& Cables

Proposed Equipment  
Area

California  
Gnatcatchers



## **Attachment 4**

List of Plant Species Identified During Survey of the Project Area

#### Attachment 4. List of Plant Species Identified During Survey of the Project Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	Associated Habitat
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common yarrow	Landscaped
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel	Landscaped, Developed, Disturbed
<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Astragalus</i> sp.	Milkvetch	Landscaped, Disturbed
<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>	Saltbush	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Avena barbata</i>	Slender wild oats	Developed, Disturbed, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Wild oats	Developed, Disturbed, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	Coyotebrush	Disturbed, Non-native grassland
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Black mustard	Landscaped, Developed, Disturbed, Non-native grassland, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Rip-gut brome	Developed, Disturbed, Non-native grassland, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Soft brome	Developed, Disturbed, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i>	Red brome	Developed, Disturbed, Non-native grassland, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	Tocolote	Developed, Disturbed areas
<i>Chamaesyce prostrata</i>	Prostrate spurge	Landscaped, Developed, Disturbed
<i>Conyza candensis</i>	Canadian horseweed	Developed
<i>Cyclops acacia</i>	Acacia	Landscaped
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Artichoke thistle	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda grass	Landscaped, Developed
<i>Cyperus squarrosus</i>	Umbrella sedge	Landscaped
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Jimson weed	Developed
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	Fringed willowherb	Landscaped, Disturbed
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	California buckwheat	Coastal sage scrub, Non-native grassland
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Redstem filaree	Developed
<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.	Eucalyptus	Landscaped
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Sweet fennel	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Gazania rigens</i>	Gazania	Landscaped
<i>Gnaphalium californicum</i>	California everlasting	Developed, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Gnaphalium canescens</i>	Silver everlasting	Developed
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly lettuce	Developed
<i>Malacothrix</i> sp.	Aster	Developed
<i>Malosma laurina</i>	Laurel sumac	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Melilotus indica</i>	Sour clover	Developed, Disturbed
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Sticky monkey flower	Developed, Disturbed
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	Landscaped, Developed
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco	Disturbed, Developed
<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	Lemonade berry	Disturbed, Landscaped
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Russian thistle	Developed, Disturbed
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Field sow-thistle	Developed
<i>Sonchus asper</i> ssp. <i>asper</i>	Prickly sow-thistle	Developed

## **Attachment 5**

List of Wildlife Species Identified During Survey of the Project Area

**Attachment 5. List of Wildlife Species Identified During Survey of the Project Area**

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Associated Habitat</b>
<i>Calypte anna</i>	Anna's hummingbird	Landscaped, Disturbed
<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>	Lesser goldfinch	Landscaped, Disturbed
<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	House finch	Landscaped, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Columba livia</i>	Rock dove	Landscaped
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Northern mockingbird	Landscaped, Developed
<i>Pipilo crissalis</i>	California towhee	Landscaped, Disturbed, Coastal sage scrub
<i>Poliophtila californica californica</i>	Coastal California gnatcatcher	Coastal sage scrub
<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	Western kingbird	Coastal sage scrub

## **Attachment 6**

CNDDB Field Survey Form



Mail to:  
California Natural Diversity Database  
Department of Fish and Game  
1807 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 202  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fax: (916) 324-0475 email: CNDDDB@dfg.ca.gov

For Office Use Only

Source Code \_\_\_\_\_ Quad Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Elm Code \_\_\_\_\_ Occ. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
EO Index No. \_\_\_\_\_ Map Index No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Field Work (mm/dd/yyyy): 07/30/2007

Reset

California Native Species Field Survey Form

Send Form

Scientific Name: *Polioptila californica californica*

Common Name: Coastal California Gnatcatcher

Species Found? ☒ Yes ☐ No If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

Total No. Individuals 4 Subsequent Visit? ☐ yes ☒ no

Is this an existing NDDDB occurrence? ☒ no ☐ unk.  
Yes, Occ. # \_\_\_\_\_

Collection? If yes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number \_\_\_\_\_ Museum / Herbarium \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter: Lauren Seckel

Address: 625 Fair Oaks, Suite 190  
South Pasadena, CA 91030

E-mail Address: lseckel@swca.com

Phone: (626) 240-0587

Plant Information

Phenology: \_\_\_\_\_% vegetative \_\_\_\_\_% flowering \_\_\_\_\_% fruiting

Animal Information

# adults \_\_\_\_\_ # juveniles \_\_\_\_\_ # larvae \_\_\_\_\_ # egg masses \_\_\_\_\_ # unknown 4  
☐ breeding ☐ wintering ☐ burrow site ☐ rookery ☐ nesting ☐ other

Location Description (please attach map AND/OR fill out your choice of coordinates, below)

County: San Diego County Landowner / Mgr.: Olivenhain Water District  
Quad Name: Escondido Elevation: 750 ft

T \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_ Sec \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 of \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4, Meridian: ☐ H ☐ M ☐ S Source of Coordinates (GPS, topo. map & type): \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_ Sec \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 of \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4, Meridian: ☐ H ☐ M ☐ S GPS Make & Model \_\_\_\_\_

**DATUM:** NAD27 ☐ NAD83 ☐ WGS84 ☐ Horizontal Accuracy \_\_\_\_\_ meters/feet

**Coordinate System:** UTM Zone 10 ☐ UTM Zone 11 ☐ OR Geographic (Latitude & Longitude) ☐

Coordinates: \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat Description (plant communities, dominants, associates, substrates/soils, aspects/slope):

Coastal sage scrub dominated by California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), and Laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*). on north-facing 45° slope divided by a paved access road.

Other rare taxa seen at THIS site on THIS date:  
(separate form preferred)

**Site Information** Overall site/occurrence quality/viability (site + population): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Immediate AND surrounding land use: Coastal sage scrub and non-native grassland, within

Visible disturbances: The Lake Hodges segment of The MSCP.

Threats:

Comments:

Determination: (check one or more, and fill in blanks)

- ☐ Keyed (cite reference): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Compared with specimen housed at: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Compared with photo / drawing in: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ By another person (name): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Photographs:** (check one or more) Slide ☐ Print ☐ Digital ☐  
Plant / animal ☐ ☐ ☐  
Habitat ☐ ☐ ☐  
Diagnostic feature ☐ ☐ ☐

May we obtain duplicates at our expense? yes ☐ no ☐

# Black Mountain Norte Tank

San Bernardo (Snook)  
Land Grant

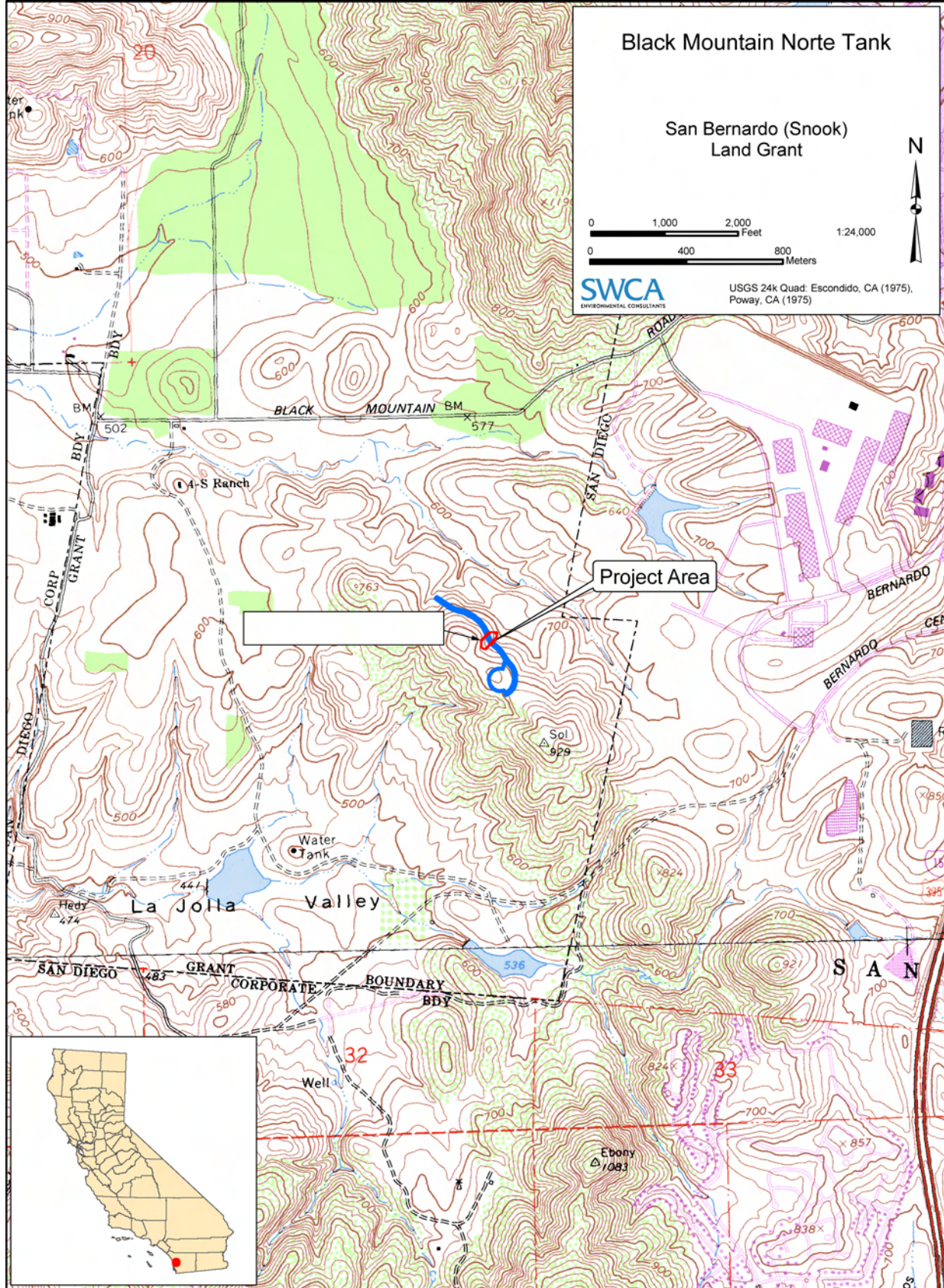


0 1,000 2,000 Feet 1:24,000

0 400 800 Meters

**SWCA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

USGS 24k Quad: Escondido, CA (1975),  
Poway, CA (1975)



## **Attachment 7**

Special-status Species Database Search Results

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<b>Plants</b>								
<i>Acanthomintha ilicifolia</i>	San Diego thornmint	FT	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Endemic to mesas and valleys within chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools.	Active vertisol clay soils and clay lenses. 10-935m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Adolphia californica</i>	California adolphia	None	None		2.1	Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and valley and foothill grassland.	Found on sandy/gravelly to clay soils. 15-300m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Agave shawii</i>	Shaw's agave	None	None	MSCP	2.1	Coastal bluffs and slopes within coastal sage scrub.	10-75m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Ambrosia pumila</i>	San Diego ambrosia	FE	None	MSCP	1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools.	Disturbed areas in sandy loam or clay soils. Often along valley bottoms, along river floodplains, or nearby vernal pools. 20-415m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Aphanisma blitoides</i>	Aphanisma	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub, coastal dunes, and coastal scrub.	Coastal bluffs near the ocean and beach dunes. 1-305m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Arctostaphylos glandulosa</i> var. <i>crassifolia</i>	Del Mar Manzanita	FE	None	MSCP	1B.1	Sandy coastal mesas and ocean bluffs in chaparral or Torrey pine forests.	0-365m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Arctostaphylos rainbowensis</i>	Rainbow manzanita	None	None		1B.1	Chaparral.	Usually found in gabbro chaparral. 270-790m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Astragalus oocarpus</i>	San Diego milk-vetch	None	None		1B.2	Chaparral, cismontane woodlands, meadows.	Openings in chaparral or on gravelly flats and slopes in thin oak woodland. 305-1500m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Astragalus tener</i> var. <i>titi</i>	Coastal dunes milk-vetch	FE	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal dunes.	Moist sandy depressions of bluffs or dunes near the Pacific Ocean. 1-50m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Atriplex pacifica</i>	South Coast saltscale	None	None		1B.2	Coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, playas, and chenopod scrub.	Alkali soils. 1-500m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Atriplex parishii</i>	Parish's brittlescale	None	None		1B.1	Alkali meadows, vernal pools, chenopod scrub, and playas.	Drying alkali flats with fine soils. 4-140m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Baccharis vanessae</i>	Encinitas baccharis	FT	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Chaparral.	Sandstone soils on steep, open, rocky areas with chaparral associates. 60-720m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Bergerocactus emoryi</i>	Golden-spined cereus	None	None		2.2	Coastal scrub, and sometimes chaparral margins.	Usually on clay soils. 3-395m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Brodiaea filifolia</i>	Thread-leaved brodiaea	FT	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, playas, valley and foothill grasslands, and vernal pools.	Clay soils in annual grasslands and vernal pools, often surrounded by shrubland habitats. 25-860m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Brodiaea orcuttii</i>	Orcutt's brodiaea	None	None	MSCP	1B.1	Usually in vernal pools and small drainages but also valley and foothill grassland, closed-cone coniferous forest, cismontane woodland, chaparral, and meadows.	Mesic, clay habitats, sometimes serpentine. 30-1615m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Ceanothus cyaneus</i>	Lakeside ceanothus	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Closed-cone coniferous forest and chaparral.	100-1515m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Ceanothus verrucosus</i>	White coast ceanothus	None	None	MSCP	2.2	Chaparral.	1-380m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Centromadia parryi</i> ssp. <i>australis</i>	Southern tarplant	None	None		1B.1	Margins of marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grasslands, vernal pools.	Disturbed sites near the coast. Alkaline soils, sometimes with salt grass. Vernal pools. 0-425m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>	Smooth tarplant	None	None		1B.1	Grassland, scrub land, meadows, playas, riparian woodland; also disturbed areas.	Alkali meadow and scrub. 0-480m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Chaenactis glabriuscula orcuttiana</i>	Orcutt's pincushion	None	None		1B.1	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal dunes.	Sandy soils. 3-100m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.



Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Chorizanthe orcuttiana</i>	Orcutt's spineflower	FE	SE		1B.1	Coastal scrub, chaparral, and closed-cone coniferous forest.	Sandy sites and openings. Sometimes found in transition zones. 3-125m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Chorizanthe polygonoides</i> var. <i>longispina</i>	Long-spined spineflower	None	None		1B.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, meadows, and valley and foothill grassland.	Gabbroic clay soils; typically found on clay lenses which are largely devoid of shrubs. 30-1450m.	<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Clarkia delicata</i>	Delicate clarkia	None	None		1B.2	Cismontane woodland and chaparral.	235-1000m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Comarostaphylis diversifolia</i> ssp. <i>diversifolia</i>	Summer holly	None	None	FSS	1B.2	Often in mixed chaparral.	Sometimes post-burn. 30-550m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Coreopsis maritima</i>	Sea dahlia	None	None		2.2	Coastal scrub and coastal bluff scrub.	Occurs on a variety of soil types, including sandstone. 5-150m.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i> var. <i>incana</i>	San Diego sand aster	None	None		1B.1	Coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub and chaparral.	Possibly in disturbed sites and ecotones. 3-115m.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i> var. <i>linifolia</i>	Del Mar Mesa sand aster	None	None	MSCP	1B.1	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	Coastal shrubby communities on maritime sediments and conglomerates. 30-150m.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Dudleya brevifolia</i>	Short-leaved dudleya	None	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	Pebbly openings with torrey sandstone soils. 30-250m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Dudleya variegata</i>	Variegated dudleya	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Chaparral, coastal scrub, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools.	Openings in sage scrub and chaparral; sometimes associated with vernal pool margins. In rocky or clay soils. 3-550m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Dudleya viscida</i>	Sticky dudleya	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Coastal scrub, coastal bluff scrub, and chaparral.	North and south-facing cliffs and banks. 10-550m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Ericameria palmeri</i> ssp. <i>palmeri</i>	Palmer's goldenbush	None	None	MSCP	2.2	Coastal scrub and chaparral.	On granitic soils, on steep hillsides, and mesic sites. 100-600m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>hooveri</i>	Hoover's button-celery	None	None		1B.1	Vernal pools.	3-45m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i> var. <i>parishii</i>	San Diego button-celery	FE	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland.	San Diego mesa hardpan and claypan vernal pools, and southern interior basalt flow vernal pools. 15-620m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Euphorbia misera</i>	Cliff spurge	None	None		2.2	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub.	Rocky sites. 10-500m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Ferocactus viridescens</i>	San Diego barrel cactus	None	None	MSCP	2.1	Chaparral, Diegan coastal scrub, and valley and foothill grassland.	Often on exposed, level or south-sloping areas and crests of slopes. 3-485m.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.



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<i>Geothallus tuberosus</i>	Campbell's liverwort	None	None		1B.1	Coastal scrub, vernal pools. Most suitable habitat has been lost to urbanization.	Mesic soils. 10-600m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Githopsis diffusa</i> ssp. <i>filicaulis</i>	Mission Canyon bluecup	None	None		3.1	Chaparral.	Open grassy places. Mesic, disturbed areas. 450-700m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Grindelia hirsutula</i> var. <i>hallii</i>	San Diego gumplant	None	None		1B.2	Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, and valley and foothill grasslands.	185-1745m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Hazardia orcutti</i>	Orcutt's hazardia	FC	ST		1B.1	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	Clay soils in grassy edges of chaparral and coastal scrub. 85m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Horkelia truncata</i>	Ramona horkelia	None	None		1B.3	Chaparral and cismontane woodland.	Vernal streams and disturbed areas near roads. Clay soils. 400-1300m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Isocoma menziesii</i> var. <i>decumbens</i>	Decumbent goldenbush	None	None		1B.2	Often in disturbed sites, within coastal scrub.	Sandy soils. 10-910m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Iva hayesiana</i>	San Diego marsh-elder	None	None		2.2	Riverwashes, marshes, swamps, and playas.	10-500m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i> ssp. <i>coulteri</i>	Coulter's goldfields	None	None		1B.1	Coastal salt marshes, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools.	Usually found on alkaline soils. 1-1400m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Lepechinia cardiophylla</i>	Heart-leaved pitcher sage	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral, and cismontane woodland.	550-1370m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i>	Robinson's pepper-grass	None	None		1B.2	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	Dry soils. 1-945m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Lotus nuttallianus</i>	Nuttall's lotus	None	None	MSCP	1B.1	Coastal dunes and coastal scrub.	Sand dunes. 0-10m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Monardella hypoleuca</i> ssp. <i>lanata</i>	Felt-leaved monardella	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Chaparral and cismontane woodland.	Occurs in understory on sandy soils. 300-1575m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Monardella viminea</i>	Willow monardella	FE	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Coastal scrub/ alluvial ephemeral washes with adjacent coastal scrub, chaparral, or sycamore woodland.	In canyons, in rocky and sandy places, sometimes in washes or floodplains. 50-225m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Muilla clevelandii</i>	San Diego Goldenstar	None	None	MSCP	1B.1	Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland, and vernal pools.	Clay soils, often on mounds between vernal pools in fine, sandy loam. 50-1090m.	<b>Present</b> ; species has been recorded from within the immediate project area vicinity and there is suitable habitat within the project area.
<i>Myosurus minimus</i> ssp. <i>apus</i>	Little mousetail	None	None		3.1	Vernal pools.	Alkaline soils. 20-640m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Navarretia fossalis</i>	Spreading navarretia	FT	None	MSCP	1B.1	Vernal pools, chenopod scrub, marshes and swamps, and playas.	San Diego hardpan and claypan vernal pools and swales; often surrounded by other habitat types. 30-1300m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.

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<i>Nemacaulis denudata</i> var. <i>denudata</i>	Coast woolly-heads	None	None		1B.2	Coastal dunes.	0-100m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Opuntia californica</i> var. <i>californica</i>	Snake cholla	None	None		1B.1	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	30-150m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Packera ganderi</i>	Gander's ragwort	None	SR		1B.2	Chaparral.	Recently burned sites and gabbro outcrops. 400-1200m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Pinus torreyana</i> ssp. <i>torreyana</i>	Torrey pine	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Chaparral and closed-cone coniferous forest.	Dry sandstone slopes. 70-160m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Pogogyne abramsii</i>	San Diego mesa mint	FE	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Vernal pools within valley and foothill grasslands, chaparral, and coastal scrub.	90-200m.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Pogogyne nudiuscula</i>	Otay Mesa mint	FE	SE	MSCP	1B.1	Dry beds of vernal pools and moist swales.	85-250m.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Quercus dumosa</i>	Nuttall's scrub oak	None	None		1B.1	Closed-cone coniferous forest, chaparral and coastal scrub near coast.	Sandy soils and sometimes clay loam. 15-400m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Satureja chandleri</i>	San Miguel savory	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, riparian woodland, and valley and foothill grassland.	Rocky, gabbroic or metavolcanic substrates. 120-1005m.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Senecio aphanactis</i>	Rayless ragwort	None	None		2.2	Cismontane woodland and coastal scrub.	Drying alkaline flats. 20-575m.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Sphaerocarpos drewei</i>	Bottle liverwort	None	None		1B.1	Chaparral and coastal scrub. Most suitable habitat has been lost to urbanization.	In openings, on soil. 90-600m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Stemodia durantifolia</i>	Purple stemodia	None	None		2.1	Sonoran desert scrub.	Sandy soils and mesic sites. 180-300m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Suaeda esteroa</i>	Estuary seablite	None	None		1B.2	Coastal marshes and swamps.	Clay, silt, and sand substrates. 0-5m.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Tetracoccus dioicus</i>	Parry's tetracoccus	None	None	MSCP	1B.2	Chaparral and coastal scrub.	Stony, decomposed gabbroic soil. 150-1000m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Triquetrella californica</i>	Coastal triquetrella	None	None		1B.2	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub.	Moss growing on soil. 10-100m.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<b>Invertebrates</b>								
<i>Branchinecta sandiegonensis</i>	San Diego fairy shrimp	FE	None	MSCP		Endemic to San Diego County mesas.	Vernal pools.	<b>Absent;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Cicindela hirticollis gravida</i>	Sandy beach tiger beetle	None	None			Areas adjacent to non-brackish water along the coast.	Clean, dry, light-colored sand in the upper zone. Larvae prefer sand not affected by wave action.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Cicindela senilis frosti</i>	Tiger beetle	None	None			Marine shoreline and salt marshes.	Inhabits dark-colored mud in the lower zone and dried salt pans in the upper zone.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.

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<i>Coelus globosus</i>	Globose dune beetle	None	None			Inhabits coastal sand dune habitat.	Inhabits foredunes and sand hummocks. Most common beneath dune vegetation.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch butterfly	None	None			Roosts in wind-protected tree groves.	Roosts with nectar and water sources nearby, commonly in Eucalyptus, Monterey Pine, and Cypress.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Melitta californica</i>	California melitta bee	None	None			Desert regions of southwestern Arizona, southeastern California, and Baja California, Mexico.	Earlier records of <i>Melita wilmattae</i> pertain to this species.	<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>	Riverside fairy shrimp	FE	None	MSCP		Endemic to west Riverside and San Diego Counties in areas of tectonic swales/earth slump basins in grassland and coastal sage scrub.	Inhabits seasonally astatic pools filled by winter/spring rains. Hatch in warm water later in the season.	<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Tryonia imitator</i>	Mimic tryonia (California brackishwater snail)	None	None			Coastal lagoons, estuaries, and salt marshes.	Permanently submerged areas in a variety of sediment types and a wide range of salinities.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<b>Amphibians</b>								
<i>Bufo californicus</i>	Arroyo toad	FE	SC	MSCP		Semi-arid regions near washes or intermittent streams, including valley-foothill and desert riparian, desert washes, etc.	Rivers with sandy banks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores. Loose gravelly areas of streams in drier parts of range.	<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.

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<i>Spea hammondi</i>	Western spadefoot	None	SC	BLMS		Occurs primarily in grassland habitat, but can be found in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands.	Vernal pools are essential for breeding and egg-laying.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<b>Reptiles</b>								
<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>	Orange-throated whiptail	None	SC	MSCP		Inhabits low elevation coastal scrub, chaparral and valley-foothill hardwood habitats.	Prefers washes and other sandy areas with patches of brush and rocks. Perennial plants necessary for its major food-termites.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i>	Coastal western whiptail	None	None			Open grassland, desert and semi-arid habitats with sparse vegetation. Also woodland and riparian areas.	Firm soil, sandy, or rocky substrate.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Charina trivirgata</i>	Rosy boa	None	None	FSS, BLMS		Desert and chaparral from the coast to the Mojave and Colorado Deserts. Prefers moderate to dense vegetation and rocky cover.	Habitats with a mix of brushy cover and rocky soil such as coastal canyons and hillsides, desert canyons, washes, and mountains.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>	Northern red-diamond rattlesnake	None	SC			Chaparral, woodland, grassland, and desert areas.	Rocky areas and areas with dense vegetation. Needs rodent burrows, cracks in rocks, or surface cover objects.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Diadophis punctatus similis</i>	San Diego ringneck snake	None	None			Open, rocky areas.	Prefers areas with surface litter or herbaceous vegetation for cover. Often found in moist areas near streams.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Emys marmorata</i>	Western pond turtle	None	SC	MSCP		Ponds, marshes, rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches with aquatic vegetation.	Require basking sites and sandy or grassy upland sites for egg-laying.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis</i>	Coronado skink	None	None			Grassland, chaparral, pinyon-juniper and juniper sage woodland, pine-oak and pine forests in coast ranges.	Prefers open areas. Found in rocky areas close to streams and on dry hillsides.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i>	Coast horned lizard	None	SC	FSS, MSCP		Inhabits coastal sage scrub and chaparral in arid and semi-arid climate conditions.	Prefers friable, rocky or shallow sandy soil.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i>	Coast patch-nosed snake	None	SC			Brushy or shrubby vegetation in coastal southern California.	Require small mammal burrows for refuge and overwintering sites.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	Two-striped garter snake	None	SC	FSS, BLMS		Coastal California from vicinity of Salinas to NW Baja California. From sea level to about 7,000 ft. elevation.	Highly aquatic, found in or near permanent fresh water. Often along streams with rocky beds and riparian growth.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.
<b>Birds</b>								
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk (N)	None	SC	MSCP		Woodland, chiefly of open, interrupted or marginal type.	Nest sites mainly in riparian growths of deciduous trees, as in canyon bottoms, on river floodplains; also live in oaks.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Tricolored blackbird	None	SC	BLMS, MSCP		Highly colonial species, most numerous in the Central Valley and vicinity. Largely endemic to California.	Requires open water, protective nesting substrate and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local records within five miles.

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<i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>	Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow	None	SC	MSCP		Resident in southern California coastal sage scrub and sparse mixed chaparral.	Frequents relatively steep, often rocky hillsides with grass and forb patches.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Amphispiza belli belli</i>	Bell's sage sparrow	None	SC			Nests in hard chaparral dominated by fairly dense stands of chamise. Found in coastal sage scrub in south of range.	Nest located on the ground beneath a shrub or in a shrub 6-18 inches above ground. Territories about 50 yards apart.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden eagle (N&W)	None	SC, FP	CDFS, BLMS, MSCP		Rolling foothill or coast-range terrain, where open grassland turns to scattered oaks, sycamores, or large digger pines.	Cliff-walled canyons provide nesting habitat in most parts of range; also large trees in open areas.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local nesting records within five miles.
<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Burrowing owl	None	SC	BLMS		Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands, deserts and scrublands characterized by low-growing vegetation.	Subterranean nester, dependent upon burrowing mammals, especially California ground squirrel.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis</i>	San Diego cactus wren	None	SC	MSCP		Southern California coastal sage scrub.	Requires tall <i>Opuntia</i> cactus for nesting and roosting.	<b>May occur</b> ; suitable foraging habitat is present and there are local records within five miles; however, there is a lack of suitable nesting habitat.
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western snowy plover (coastal population) (N)	FT	SC	MSCP		Sand beaches on marine and estuarine shores, also salt pond levees and the shores of large alkali lakes.	Requires sandy, gravelly or friable soil substrates for nesting.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.



Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	White-tailed kite	None	None			Rolling foothill and valley margins with scattered oaks and river bottoms. Also marshes near deciduous woodland. (Nesting sites).	Open grasslands, meadows, or marshes for foraging nearby isolated, dense-topped trees for nesting and perching.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though marginally suitable nesting habitat is present, there are no local records within five miles. May forage within and adjacent to project area.
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Southwestern willow flycatcher	FE	SE	MSCP		Riparian woodlands in southern California.		<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local nesting records within five miles.
<i>Eremophila alpestris actia</i>	California horned lark	None	SC			Coastal regions, chiefly from Sonoma Co. to San Diego Co. Also main part of San Joaquin Valley and east to foothills.	Short-grass prairie, bald hills, mountain meadows, open coastal plains, fallow grain fields, alkali flats.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though marginally suitable nesting habitat is present, there are no local records within five miles. May forage adjacent to project area.
<i>Icteria virens</i>	Yellow-breasted chat (N)	None	SC			Summer resident, inhabits riparian thickets of willow and other brushy tangles near watercourses.	Nests in low, dense riparian, consisting of willow, blackberry, wild grape; forage and nest within 10 ft of the ground.	<b>Absent;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the nesting habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	California black rail	None	ST, FP			Mainly inhabits salt marshes bordering larger bays.	Occurs in tidal salt marsh heavily grown to pickleweed. Also in freshwater and brackish marshes all at low elevations.	<b>Absent;</b> outside of known range.
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i>	Belding's savannah sparrow	None	SE	MSCP		Coastal salt marshes, from Santa Barbara, south to San Diego County.	Nests in <i>Salicornia</i> on and about margins of tidal flats.	<b>Absent;</b> suitable habitat is not present and there are no local nesting records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	White-faced ibis	None	SC	MSCP		Shallow fresh-water marshes. (Rookery sites).	Dense tule thickets for nesting, interspersed with areas of shallow water for foraging.	<b>Absent</b> ; suitable habitat is not present and there are no local nesting records within five miles.
<i>Poliophtila californica californica</i>	Coastal California gnatcatcher	FT	SC	MSCP		Obligate permanent resident of coastal sage scrub below 2,500 ft in southern California.	Low, coastal sage scrub, in arid washes, on mesas and slopes. Not all areas classified as coastal sage scrub are occupied.	<b>Present</b> ; species has been recorded from within the immediate project area vicinity and there is suitable habitat present. Furthermore, species was observed during the field visit. Local records within five miles.
<i>Rallus longirostris levipes</i>	Light-footed clapper rail	FE	SE, FP	MSCP		Salt marshes traversed by tidal sloughs, where cordgrass and pickleweed are dominant vegetation.	Require dense growth of either pickleweed or cordgrass for nesting or escape cover. Feed on mollusks and crustaceans.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>	California least tern (N)	FE	SE, FP	MSCP		Nests along coast from San Francisco Bay south to northern Baja California.	California breeder on bare, or sparsely vegetated, flat substrates: sand beaches, alkali flats, landfills, or paved areas.	<b>Absent</b> ; outside of known range.
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Least Bell's vireo (N)	FE	SE	MSCP		Summer resident of southern California. Inhabits low riparian growth in vicinity of water or in dry river bottoms, below 2,000 ft.	Nests placed along margins of bushes or twigs projecting into pathways, usually willow, <i>Baccharis</i> , mesquite.	<b>Absent</b> ; though there are occurrence records within five miles, the nesting habitat is not suitable within the project area.
<b>Mammals</b>								

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	Pallid bat	None	SC	FSS BLMS		Deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting.	Roosts must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites. Arid, low elevations (<6,000 feet); roost in deep crevices in rock faces, buildings, or bridges.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though marginal roosting habitat is present, there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>	Dulzura pocket mouse	None	SC			Open coastal sage scrub, chaparral and grassland.	Grass-chaparral edges.	<b>May occur;</b> suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>	Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse	None	SC			Coastal scrub, chaparral, grasslands, sagebrush, etc. in western San Diego County.	Sandy, herbaceous areas, usually in association with rocks or coarse gravel.	<b>May occur;</b> suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>	Mexican long-tongued bat	None	SC			Desert canyons, arid mountain ranges.	Roosts by day in caves, mines or buildings	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>	Stephen's kangaroo rat	FE	ST			Annual and perennial grasslands. Also found in coastal scrub and sagebrush with sparse canopy cover.	Prefers buckwheat, chamise, brome grass, and filaree. Burrows into firm soils.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	Spotted bat	None	SC			Wide variety of habitats from arid deserts and grasslands to mixed conifer forests.	Feeds over water and along washes. Needs rock crevices in cliffs or caves for roosting.	<b>Absent;</b> no suitable foraging habitat and there are no local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>	California mastiff bat	None	SC	BLMS		Many open, semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, grasslands, chaparral, etc.	Roosts in crevices in cliff faces, high buildings, trees and tunnels.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there is suitable foraging habitat is present and there are local records within five miles, there is no suitable roosting habitat within the project area.
<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>	Western yellow bat	None	None			Found in wooded areas and desert scrub.	Roosts in foliage, particularly in palm trees.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	None	SC			Intermediate canopy stages of shrub habitats and open shrub/herbaceous and tree/herbaceous edges.	Coastal sage scrub habitats in southern California.	<b>May occur;</b> suitable habitat is present and there are local records within five miles.
<i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>	San Diego desert woodrat	None	SC			Coastal southern California from San Diego County to San Luis Obispo County.	Moderate to dense canopies preferred. They are particularly abundant in rock outcrops and rocky cliffs and slopes.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Nyctinomops femerosaccus</i>	Pocketed free-tailed bat	None	None			Arid regions including pine-juniper woodlands, desert scrub, palm oasis, desert wash, and desert riparian habitats.	Rocky areas with high cliffs.	<b>Not likely to occur;</b> though there are occurrence records within five miles, the habitat is not suitable or is marginal within the project area.
<i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>	Big free-tailed bat	None	SC			Lives in rocky areas of desert scrub or coniferous forests.	Roosts by day in crevices on cliff faces	<b>Absent;</b> no suitable foraging habitat and there are no local records within five miles.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status	Other	CNPS Status	General Habitat	Micro Habitat	Potential for Occurrence
<i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i>	Pacific pocket mouse	FE	SC			Inhabits the narrow coastal plains from the Mexican border north to El Segundo in Los Angeles County.	Seems to prefer soils of fine alluvial sands near the ocean.	<b>Absent</b> ; no suitable foraging habitat and there are no local records within five miles.
<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	American badger	None	SC	MSCP		Grasslands, savannas, and mountain meadows.	Friable soils, and relatively open, uncultivated ground.	<b>Not likely to occur</b> ; suitable habitat is present but there are no local records within five miles.

**Status Codes:**

N = Nesting, Nesting Colony or Rookery  
W = Winter

Federal

FT = Federal Threatened  
FE = Federal Endangered  
FPE = Federal Proposed Endangered  
FPT = Federal Proposed Threatened  
FPD = Federal Proposed Delisting  
FC = Federal Candidate  
FD = Federal Delisted

State

ST = State Threatened  
SE = State Endangered  
SR = State Rare  
SC = State Species of Special Concern  
FP = State Fully Protected

Other

FSS = Forest Service Sensitive  
BLMS = Bureau of Land Management Sensitive  
CDFS = California Dept. of Forestry Sensitive  
MSCP = San Diego County MSCP

CNPS

1A = Presumed Extinct in California  
1B = Rare, Threatened or Endangered in California and elsewhere  
2 = Rare, Threatened or Endangered in California but more common elsewhere  
3 = More information needed (usually taxonomically problematic)  
4 = "Watch list." Limited distribution

## **Attachment 8**

Special-status Species Occurrence Map



